

Loans available to help community

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack recently announced that the Department is accepting applications for loans and grants to support community development projects, business expansion and job creation.

"These United States Department of Agriculture investments are part of the Obama Administration's ongoing efforts to create jobs and expand economic opportunities for rural entrepreneurs," Vilsack said. "Through them, United States Department of Agriculture is working with local organizations to provide capital to help small business owners achieve their goals. These investments are helping rural residents take the next steps on the ladder to greater success and opportunity."

Assistance is being provided through two United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development programs: the Intermediary Re-lending Program and the Rural Micro-entrepreneur Assistance Program. The 2014 Farm Bill reauthorized both programs through 2018. For Fiscal Year 2014, \$18.9 million in Intermediary loans are available, and \$25.4 million in Rural Micro-entrepreneur loans and grants are available.

Under the Intermediary Re-lending Program, the Department of Agriculture lends money to economic development intermediaries (non-profits and

public bodies) who re-lend it to rural businesses (ultimate recipients) that might not otherwise be able to obtain such financing. The program supports sustainable economic development and helps create or retain jobs in disadvantaged and remote communities. The Department of Agriculture encourages intermediaries to work with state and regional representatives and with other public and private organizations that can provide complementary resources. Since President Obama took office, the Intermediary program has created or saved an estimated 92,000 jobs.

Under the Rural Micro-entrepreneur Assistance Program, the Department of Agriculture provides loans and grants to Micro-enterprise Development Organizations to help micro-entrepreneurs — very small businesses with 10 or fewer employees — access micro-loans to start or develop businesses. Micro-enterprise Development Organizations use the funds to provide training and technical assistance to eligible small businesses or to establish revolving loan funds to provide micro-loans, typically \$5,000 to \$50,000, to rural micro-entrepreneurs. Since the beginning of the Obama Administration, the Rural Micro-entrepreneur Assistance Program has provided \$52 million for 257

projects to support very small business enterprises.

Details about how to apply for 2014 Intermediary Re-lending Program funding are on page 28886 and for 2014 Rural Micro-entrepreneur Assistance Program funding are on page 28888 of today's *Federal Register*. Application forms may be obtained from the Department of Agriculture's Rural Development State Office.

The Mid-Columbia Economic Development District in Maupin, Ore., used a \$100,000 Intermediary loan and other funding to keep Maupin's local grocery store open and save six jobs. The new owner used the funds to remodel the 90-year-old establishment, which serves residents and tourists and is the only grocery store within 40 miles.

The Department of Agriculture provided \$605,000 in Rural Micro-entrepreneur loans and grants to California FarmLink, a statewide non-profit serving limited-resource, underserved farmers. FarmLink used the funds to provide 23 micro-loans and technical assistance to small farmers in California. The farmers bought seeds, plants and equipment, hired workers, marketed their crops and became more profitable. More than half of the micro-loans were provided to women and minority farmers.

Norton County Horse Clinic



A horse clinic, sponsored by the Norton County Horse Council and the Norton County 4-H Council, was held on Friday for beginners and advanced riders at the Norton Equine Facility. (From left to right) Brittany Wright, Austyn Cox, Jasmine Covington, Sydney Brands and Brianna Sammons listen to (center) instructor Kristi Eberle's directions.

—Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

COLLEGE NOTES

Darcy Ann Bainter, a 2014 Norton Community High School graduate, has received the Dale Dennis Excellence in Education award sponsored by United School Administrators of Kansas.

The recipients of this award are identified throughout high schools in the state as individuals

who have displayed the citizenship, community and school service, scholarship and common sense characteristics that make them a quality individual.

Mr. Rudy Perez, principal of Norton Community High School, announced that Darcy demonstrated the characteristics necessary to receive the award.

The Dale Dennis Excellence in Education Award was established to honor the long and valuable service that Dale Dennis has provided to Kansas education, he is the Deputy Commissioner of the Kansas State Department of Education.

STUDENT NEWS

Norton Community High School 2013-2014 2nd Semester Honor Roll

Highest Honors 4.00

- 9th Grade**
Caitlyn Cox
Wilson Ellis
Layton Miller
Josephine Otter
Jena Risewick
- 10th Grade**
Casey Ambrosier
James Berry
Philip Boutwell
Hailey Branek
Weston Erbert
Lauren Mordecai
Raenee Patterson
Valery Rostek
- 11th Grade**
Chance Uehlin
- 12th Grade**
Bailey Ambrosier
Darcy Bainter
Leif Carlson
Katelyn Engelbert
Ashley Hildebrand
Marisa Maddy
Cody O'Hare
Johnnye Ruder
Jared Shelton
Landon Slipke
- Honors I 3.99-3.50**
9th Grade
Brian Clavijo
Christine Figurski
Jacob Green
Koby McEwen
Miah Melvin
Baylee Miller
Kira Robertson
Julian Snyder
Kade Unterseher
Harrison Woodyard
Trenton Wright
- 10th Grade**

- Adriana Ankenman
Carmen Ball
Andrew Bashford
Kyle Bell
Audrie Burge
Cayanna Campbell
Alma Clavijo
Mariah Dawley
Taylor Dicks
Sylvia Estes
Brendon Frack
Kirstin Georgeson
Alexus Hartwell
Michael Kasson
Gavin Lively
Shelby Mulford
Nickala O'Hare
Kylie Perez
Nicholas Peterson
Quinton Porter
Ryan Thrailkill
Lexi Voss
- 11th Grade**
Lindsay Addington
Kaitlyn Bohl
Neysa Carlson
Stephen Cummings
Morgan Farber
Kobie Unterseher
Charles Whitney
- 12th Grade**
Gabriel Bird
Cole Renner
Drew Schrum
- Honors II 3.49-3.00**
9th Grade
Joshua Acheson
Alexandria Aldridge
Trae Braun
Caleb Gregerson
Tyus Henson
Mitchell Hickman
Macayla Kent
Kennedy Leibbrandt
Landon Porter
Taylor Wahlmeier
- 10th Grade**

- Hanna Brooks
Trei Burns
Jesse Courtain
Jordan Dole
Briannah Fessler
Theresa Gallegos
Alma Clavijo
Dawn Herring
Skylar Johnson
Rachel Jones
Molly Maddy
Morgan Olliff
Alec Otter
Dalton Pfannenstiel
Peyton Renner
Kristin Stewart
- 11th Grade**
Erin Archer
Conor Cox
Sheridan Dillehay
Kenzie Esslinger
Grant Gordon
Connor Griffey
Wyatt Harting
Deon Lyle
Kendall Miller
Derek Rowh
David Smith
Jesika Smith
- 12th Grade**
Branson Addington
Megan Arehart
Zachary Bird
Kayla Campbell
Christopher Chambers
Travis Cressler
Zachary Esslinger
Shauna Gibson
Austin Hager
Damian Lawson
Marc Miller
Hannah Pollock
Christopher Richard
Ethan Ross
Abbie Smith
Danielle Wagoner

Norton Junior High School 2013-2014 2nd Semester Honor Roll

Highest Honors 4.00

- 7th Grade**
Leah David
Anastasia (Stacie) Elliott
Allison Engelbert
Hadley Hauser
Taryn Kuhn
Raelynn Slipke
James Sturgill
Hayden Wiltfong
- 8th Grade**
Mariah Addington
Jessica Ambrosier
Cale Patterson
Jace Ruder
Callie Uehlin
- Honor Roll I 3.50-3.99**
7th Grade
Sylence Auker
Emily Estes
Matthew Gordon
Tucker Gosselin
Emily Henderson
Reagan Musquiz
Lena Shelton
Shelby Tanner

- 8th Grade**
Anna Burge
Kara Frack
Dustin Harting
Weston Harting
Ryan Johnson
Seth Otter
Tevin Petrie
Justis Posson
Nicole Thrailkill
- Honor Roll II 3.00-3.49**
7th Grade
Katianna Burge
Eden Combs
Nicholas Davis
Monica Dial
Kailey Gill
Miles Harrington
Ashley Karnopp
Austin Koerperich
Amy Leroux
Ryan Lively
Zachary Rowh
Emily Woodyard
- 8th Grade**
Collyn Auker
Jessie Dawley
Kiana Estes
Heaven Gallegos

- Johnathan Gassmann
Dallas Gosselin
Dalaina Karnes
Dennis (Raye) Kasson
Emily Riley
Jace Smothers
Matthew Vacura
Nicole Vahling-Rumbach

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Several local students have accepted scholarships to Fort Hays State University for the 2014-2015 school year.

Students are listed alphabetically by high school with their scholarships, parents and majors.

Michaela Girard, a 2014 Logan High School graduate, accepted a \$500 Copper Academic Award. She is the daughter of Kirk and Tammy Girard, Prairie View.

Cody Ellis, a 2013 Norton Community High School graduate, accepted a \$700 Fort Hays Bronze Academic Award.

Ellis, son of Brock and Kim Ellis, Norton, plans to major in agricultural business.

Ashley Hildebrand, a 2014 Norton Community High School graduate, accepted an \$800 Hays City Silver Academic Award. Hildebrand, daughter of Sandi Hildebrand, Norton, plans to major in graphic design.

Damian Lawson, a 2014 Norton Community High School graduate, accepted a \$500 Academic Opportunity Award from the College of Business and Entrepreneurship. Lawson, son of Kasey Stanton, Norton, and Jarred Lawson,

Norton, plans to major in business.

Hannah Pollock, a 2014 Norton Community High School graduate, accepted a \$1,200 Miller Black and Gold Academic Award. Pollock, daughter of Ann Wente, Norton, and Mike Pollock, Hays, plans a career in music technology.

Mackenzie Lumpkin, a 2014 Phillipsburg High School graduate, accepted an \$800 Hays City Silver Academic Award. Lumpkin, daughter of Todd and Darcie Lumpkin, Kirwin, plans to major in biology.

Nex-Tech is pleased to announce its 2014 Nex-Generation Scholarship recipients. Scholarships totaling \$10,000 were awarded to 10 high school seniors living in households subscribing to internet, phone or TV service. Two students from Norton Community High School were selected as recipients of \$1000 scholarships: Johnnye Ruder and Jared Shelton.

Johnnye Ruder lives in Norton and is the daughter of John and Jennifer Ruder. She plans to attend Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Okla., this fall, where she will be majoring in agriculture marketing and sales. Jared Shelton is the son of Jay and Pam Shelton of Norton. He will study architecture at Kansas State University.

Nearly 90 students applied for the scholarships and the top candidates were interviewed by a scholarship committee. "We have so many talented students right here in the service area," stated Jacque Beckman, Youth Services/Community Development Coordinator. "We love being able to offer young people a chance to further their education

and we know that simply going through the process of applying or interviewing is a vital step towards their future. We congratulate these and all area students

on their success thus far and hope they will consider coming back to the area after they complete their education."

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June 12, 13, and 14

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RODEO

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With approximately 130 kids in attendance, 12 of them local/NWKS kids, we feel the Kansas State High School Rodeo Cowboy Prom 2014, at Hill City, was a success!!

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